

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SNM-02 DEAE-00

L-01 PRS-01 AID-05 AGR-05 SP-02 OMB-01 JUSE-00 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO USUN IMMEDIATE 1758

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6504

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN RE TURKISH RESUMPTION OF POPPY
CULTIVATION.

REF: USUN 4142.

1. WE ASSUME DEPARTMENT PROVIDING INFORMATION REQUESTED BY
AMBASSADOR SACLI AND THAT DEPARTMENT AND GENEVA REPORTING ON
CURRENT STATUS UN EFFORTS INCLUDING POSSIBILITY SECOND GREENFIELD
MISSION.

2. MEMBERS OF EMBASSY ANKARA COUNTRY TEAM HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE
TOUCH WITH THOSE ELEMENTS OF GOT RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING AND
ENFORCING POPPY GROWING PLAN AND HAVE MADE RECENT FIELD TRIP TO
POPPY GROWING REGIONS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPONSIBLE LOCAL
OFFICIALS. THESE EFFORTS BEING REPORTED IN DETAIL TO INTERESTED
WASHINGTON AGENCIES. FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY SUMMARY IS GIVEN FOR
POSSIBLE USE BY USUN, IN CONSULTATION WITH DEPARTMENT, WITH
CONGRESSMAN RANGEL.

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3. MAIN AGENCY OF GOT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN IS SOIL PRODUCTS

ORGANIZATION (TMO) WORKING WITH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. FIELD HEAD OF PROGRAM IS REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF TMO HEADQUARTERED IN AFYON WHO HAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR IN EACH OF OTHER SIX PROVINCES WHERE LICENSED POPPY CULTIVATION TO BE PERMITTED.

THEY ARE ESTABLISHING SEVERAL HUNDRED 2 MAN TEAMS CONSISTING OF ONE TMO AND ONE MIN. AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL TO SUPERVISE GROWING PROCESS.

4. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN INCLUDES FOLLOWING STEPS;

A. LICENSING AND PLANTING. EVERY APPLICATION FOR LICENSE FOR PLANTING (WHICH IS NOW STARTING) HAD TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM SHOWING LOCATION OF PLOT. ONLY PLOTS CONTIGUOUS TO VILLAGE CENTERS HAVE BEEN LICENSED. SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE CHECKED APPLICANT LISTS AND HAVE REFUSED LICENSES TO ANY PERSON PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN ILLICIT NARCOTIC OR OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. TMO/AGRICULTURE TEAMS HAVE PHYSICALLY CHECKED EACH PLOT TO ASSURE THAT IT CORRESPONDS TO DIAGRAM SUBMITTED WITH EACH APPLICATION.

B. SPOT CHECKS. TMO/MIN. AGRICULTURE TEAMS HAVE OBTAINED USE OF SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF GOVT. VEHICLES AND PLAN TO MAKE UNANNOUNCED SPOT CHECKS OF EACH PLOT DURING GROWING SEASON.

C. MARCH ESTIMATE. IN MARCH, THREE MONTHS BEFORE HARVEST OF STRAW, TMO-AGRICULTURE TEAMS PLAN MAKE ESTIMATE OF YIELD FROM EACH LICENSED PLOT AND TO GIVE PARTIAL PRE-PAYMENT TO INDIVIDUAL FARMERS.

D. LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY. LOCAL TURK OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED MEMBERS OF EMBASSY COUNTRY TEAM THAT VILLAGE HEADMEN AND WATCHMEN HAVE BEEN MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF PROGRAM AND THAT VIOLATIONS CAN RESULT IN PUNISHMENT OF ENTIRE VILLAGE.

5. ENFORCEMENT PLAN RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WHICH CONTROLS TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE (WHO STATIONED IN TOWNS OF 5,000 OR MORE) AND JANDARMA (RURAL POLICE). COUNTRY TEAM TALKS WITH JANDARMA INDICATE THEIR AWARENESS OF NEED FOR THOROUGH POLICING DURING TEN DAY TO TWO WEEK PERIOD IN LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE WHEN ILLEGAL INCISING OF POPPIES FOR EXTRACTION OF OPIUM GUM WOULD BE POSSIBLE. THEY HOPE TO BE IN THE FIELD IN FULL FORCE DURING THIS PERIOD.

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6. WE UNDERSTAND JANDARMA PRESENTLY MAKING EFFORTS STRENGTHEN ITS INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AND IMPROVE ITS RADIO COMMUNICATIONS. JANDARMA CONTEMPLATES USING AIRCRAFT AT ITS DISPOSAL FOR SURVEILLANCE NOT ONLY IN SEVEN PROVINCES WHERE POPPY GROWING AUTHORIZED BUT IN OTHER AREAS OF TURKEY WHERE ILLEGAL CULTIVATION IS POSSIBLE.

7 COUNTRY TEAM HAS CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT GOT

OFFICIALS FROM CABINET LEVEL ON DOWN TO LOCAL FEEL THE PRESSURE OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION ON TURKEY TO PERFORM EFFECTIVELY IN PREVENTING NARCOTICS FROM TURKISH POPPIES FROM ENTERING ILLICIT WORLD TRAFFIC.

8. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION HERE OF TURKISH PLANS TO EXPORT POPPY STRAW TO YUGOSLAVIA. SINCE TURKISH GOVERNMENT PRESENTLY CLOSED DOWN FOR THREE DAY BAIRAM HOLIDAY, WE CANNOT CHECK THIS OUT IN TIME FOR AMBASSADOR SCALI'S DEADLINE. IN PAST, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE TURKISH EXPORTS OF POPPY STRAW FOR PROCESSING HAVE BEEN LARGELY TO WESTERN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY HOLLAND. TURKS FULLY INTEND TO BUILD STRAW PROCESSING PLANT IN COUNTRY AND ARE SEEKING UN TECHNICAL ADVICE ON THAT SCORE. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH A PLANT WILL TAKE A YEAR OR MORE. THIS MEANS POPPY STRAW FROM FIRST YEAR'S PRODUCTION WILL HAVE TO BE EXPORTED.
MACOMBER

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